



State of Tennessee Department of Children's Services

Administrative Policies and Procedures: 20.35

Subject: Health Care Prosthetics

Supersedes: DCS 20.35, 10/01/98

Local Policy: No

Local Procedure: No

Requires Training: No

Approved by:

Effective date: 10/01/98

Revision date: 09/01/01

Application

To All Superintendents, Health Administrators, and Health Care Employees At Youth Development Centers and Tennessee Preparatory School

Authority: TCA 37-5-101, 37-5-106, 63-7-101

Policy

Health care prosthetic devices, which include eyeglasses, dentures, as well as traditional orthopedic appliances, shall be provided for youth in youth development centers/TPS when determined to be medically necessary.

Procedures

- A. Medical necessity** Medical assistance services or supplies provided are required to identify, correct or improve a chronic or existing illness, disease, or injury and which are:
- a) Consistent with the symptoms or diagnosis and treatment of the enrollee's illness, disease, or injury,
 - b) Appropriate with regard to standards of good medical practice,
 - c) Not solely for the convenience of the youth or staff, **and**
 - d) The most appropriate supply or level of services, which can safely be provided to the youth.

B. General requirements**1. Determination of need**

The responsible physician in consultation with the treatment team must determine whether the prosthetic device is medically necessary.

2. Timing

Prior to ordering a prosthetic device, health care personnel must verify that the youth will be remaining in the physical custody of the Department of Children's Services (DCS) for the length of time necessary to manufacture, fit, and adjust it to the youth.

3. Ownership; damage and loss

- a) Such devices must remain the property of the DCS until such time as the youth is released from the youth development center/TPS.
- b) Willful or negligent damage, destruction, or loss of issued prosthetic devices (eyeglasses, dentures, etc.) may result in disciplinary action. Additional replacement or repair costs may be the responsibility of the youth.
- c) Replacement or repair shall be the responsibility of the Department when:
 - ◆ The new prosthetic device is considered medically necessary;
 - ◆ A DCS employee breaks, damages, or misplaces the prosthetic device;
 - ◆ Prosthetic devices are damaged or destroyed while working on an assigned DCS job and not because of personal negligence.

4. Documentation

- a) All prosthetic devices issued in accordance with this policy must be properly documented in the youth's health record.
- b) The youth must sign and date a receipt for all items received, and the receipt must be filed in the health record under "Miscellaneous."

B. Eye care**Qualifying conditions**

- 1. Only those youth having vision of 20/50 or worse in either eye, or other pathology, must be referred to an eye specialist.
- 2. Eyeglasses must be provided only on the recommendation

of a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist on the finding of medical necessity.

3. Contact lenses shall not be provided unless medically necessary.
4. Youth admitted to a youth development center/TPS that have contact lenses and wish to keep them shall be responsible for obtaining the necessary supplies for maintenance.

Forms

None

Collateral Documents

None

ACA Standards

3JTS-4C-33

Glossary

<i>Term</i>	<i>Definition</i>
<i>Prosthetic Devices:</i>	Prosthetic devices include eyeglasses/eyewear, dental prosthetics, hearing aids (including replacement batteries), orthopedic braces, shoes, other appliances, etc.